

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Richard Bruce BRANDON et al.

Appl. No.: 10/712,266

Examiner: Unassigned

Filing Date: November 14, 2003

Art Unit: Unassigned

Title: STATUS DETERMINATION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97. A copy of each of the listed documents are being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.99.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

**RELEVANCE**

The foregoing documents came to the Applicants attention during a search of the corresponding international application. A copy of the International Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

**TIMING/FEE**

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of the first official action, therefore, no fee is required in connection with its filing. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-1641.

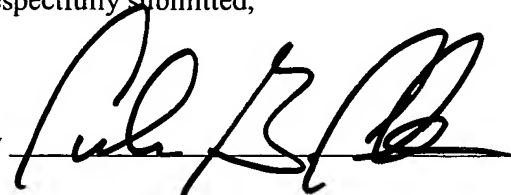
Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

Date: 3.15.04

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Respectfully submitted,

By



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

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| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 |
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**Complete if Known**

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|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/712,266                   |
| Filing Date            | November 14, 2003            |
| First Named Inventor   | Richard Bruce BRANDON et al. |
| Group Art Unit         | Unassigned                   |
| Examiner Name          | Unassigned                   |
| Attorney Docket Number | 40383-0006                   |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP § 601.04.  
<sup>4</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).  
<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.  
<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



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| First Named Inventor | Richard Bruce BRANDON et al. |
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| Group Art Unit | Unassigned |
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| Examiner Name | Unassigned |
|---------------|------------|

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| Attorney Docket Number | 40383-0006 |
|------------------------|------------|

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| ✓ Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
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OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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